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LETTER DATED 2 JULY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TOGO TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

By a letter of 26 June 1997 (see annex) I transmitted to you a letter dated 26 June 1997 addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Koffi Panou, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Togolese Republic, subsequent to the Conference of Chiefs of State and Heads of Government of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) held at Lomé on 23 June 1997 (see appendix).

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request the issuance of this letter and of the above communication from Mr. Panou as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Roland Y. KPOTSRA

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Annex

Letter dated 26 June 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Togo to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit annexed hereto a letter dated 26 June 1997 addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Koffi Panou, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Togolese Republic, subsequent to the Conference of Chiefs of State and Heads of Government of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) held at Lomé on 23 June 1997.

(Signed) Roland Y. KPOTSRA

Appendix

I have the honour to transmit annexed hereto the text of the declaration by the Conference of Chiefs of State and Heads of Government of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) on security and peace in Africa.

The declaration was adopted at the conclusion of the work of the Conference held at Lomé on 23 June 1997.

By this declaration the Chiefs of State and Heads of Government of WAEMU reaffirmed the interdependence of the economic and monetary policies of the member States and regional security, and stated their resolve to contribute to the establishment of conditions for a lasting peace that will foster progress.

Similarly, they stated their willingness to participate in the deployment in the Republic of the Congo of a force under the authority of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity.

(Signed) Koffi PANOU

Attachment

Declaration by the Conference of Chiefs of State and Heads of Government of the West African Economic and Monetary Union on Security and Peace in Africa

The Conference of Chiefs of State and Heads of Government of the West African Economic and Monetary Union, meeting at Lomé, on 23 June 1997,

Faithful to the purposes of the Treaty establishing the Union, as well as to those of the Economic Community of West African States and the Organization of African Unity,

Desiring to promote the integration of the West African Economic and Monetary Union so as to consolidate the monetary integration of the member States,

Reaffirming the need to strengthen the complementarity of the productive bases of the member States and to reduce disparities in their levels of development,

Bearing in mind the interdependence between the economic and monetary policies of the member States and regional security,

Considering the need to assure in the subregion, and in rest of the continent, conditions for a just and lasting peace and security that will guarantee the progress and development of the States,

Considering the disquieting situation prevailing in certain States of the subregion and the continent,

1. Notes with satisfaction, with regard to the crisis in Liberia, the encouraging progress made in implementation of the Abuja Agreement aimed at restoring peace in that country;

2. Welcomes the decision taken at the last Summit Meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the Committee of Nine to postpone the presidential and legislative assembly elections, initially scheduled for 30 May, to 19 July 1997, to permit them to be held in peace, security, transparency and fairness;

3. Urgently appeals to the international community to provide the assistance promised so that the elections may take place under the best possible conditions on the scheduled date;

4. Deplores, in contrast, the situation obtaining in Sierra Leone since 25 May 1997, following the coup d'état which overthrew President Ahmad Tejan Kabah, democratically elected in March 1996;

5. Strongly condemns the coup d'état;

6. Urgently calls for the restoration of constitutional order;

7. Emphasizes the imperative need for the parties concerned to make use, as quickly as possible, of the follow-up machinery under the Peace Agreement signed at Abidjan on 30 November 1996 to bring together all the parties involved in the present situation so as to initiate a dialogue permitting attainment of the objectives of the Agreement, namely the search for a just and equitable solution to the conflict in Sierra Leone and the advent of lasting peace in that country;

8. Expresses, with regard to the Congo, its great concern at the fratricidal confrontations taking place in Brazzaville which have left many victims;

9. Urges the parties involved to continue to observe the current ceasefire and to give priority in their relations to dialogue and consultation so as to settle the Congolese crisis;

10. Welcomes the action by the International Mediation Committee on the Congolese crisis;

11. Also welcomes the humanitarian action by France, which has allowed many lives to be saved;

12. Expresses its support for the initiatives in hand with a view to deploying a multinational peace force in the Congo;

13. Affirms its willingness to take part in this force under the authority of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity;

14. Deplores in addition the resumption of combat in the Central African Republic and in particular the attack on the Interafrican Mission to monitor the Bangui Agreement.